
Forest Health Monitoring Program
December Monthly Update
December 16, 2008

Recent Happenings

The USDA Forest Service Forest Health Protection Region 5 Aerial Survey Program Manager position has been filled by Zack Heath. Zack has been with the Region 5 Forest Health Protection staff for about four years as a surveyor and most recently in a detail as the Aerial Survey Program Manager. His official start date in December 21, 2008. He can be reached at zheath@fs.fed.us or 530-759-1751. We wish Zack all the best in his new position.

Upcoming Events (items beginning with * indicate a new listing or new information added)

***February 24 – 26, 2009.** Savannah, GA. The 2009 Forest Health Monitoring Work Group Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah, GA on February 24 – 26, 2009. The chair of this year's Meeting Planning Committee is Rob Cruz (US Forest Service, R4) (rcruz@fs.fed.us). The current agenda includes a panel on response to new invaders of forests and urban environments, and focus groups on aerial surveys, State assessments, risk mapping, and early detection of invasives. The optional field trip on Thursday afternoon will feature laurel wilt disease and other invasive species. An added bonus this year will be a workshop on laurel wilt disease on Friday February 27 from 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. More details regarding this meeting will be included in the formal invitation letter and registration packet that will be emailed and posted on the FHM website (www.fhm.fs.fed.us) shortly.

June 22-26, 2009. Logan, UT. The 7th North American Forest Ecology Workshop (NAFEW). The meeting will take place at Utah State University. The Workshop will bring forest ecologists from around the world to share ideas and knowledge on forest ecosystems in North America. The ecological backdrop of the 7th NAFEW will be the semi-arid and montane forests of North America's Interior West. The program will feature four days of oral presentations – with a mid-workshop ½ day break for field trips – consisting of invited speakers and volunteer presentations and posters. The first call for papers has been distributed. Workshop topics include: forest detritus under changing climate and disturbance scenarios; mixed-severity fire regimes; ecological applications of stand density indices; advances in North American aspen ecology; linking fuel heterogeneity to fire behavior and effects; ecological classification systems in forests; ecological impacts of mastication fuel treatments; disturbance interactions during ecological change; ecosystem recovery following disturbance; and root disease and bark beetle interactions. For more information about the meeting including submitting a paper, visit the meeting web page at www.nafew2009.org.

Publications of Interest

Donnegan, J.; Campbell, S.; Azuma, D., tech. eds. 2008 Oregon's forest resources, 2001-2005: five-year Forest Inventory and Analysis report. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-GTR-765. Portland, OR: U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 186 p. Available online at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/publications/gtr765/>.

Job Announcements

The USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station, Forest Inventory and Analysis Anchorage Forestry Sciences Lab anticipates filling a permanent full time ecologist or forester position (GS-408-11 Ecologist or GS-460-11 Forester) to serve as field data collection coordinator for resource inventory programs for Hawaii and interior Alaska. This position is with the Pacific Northwest Research Station's Alaska Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Program in Anchorage Alaska. The PNW FIA Program conducts forest inventories and forest health monitoring on all forestlands, across all ownership in Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, Hawaii, and the Pacific Islands. This position will function as the field coordinator for the Hawaii inventory over the next three to four years and then transition to coordinate the interior unit of Alaska. During the 2009 summer field season it is anticipated the HI/Interior Unit Coordinator will be working within the Coastal Alaska Unit before starting any

field work in Hawaii. For more information about the Pacific Northwest Research Station FIA program please visit the following web site: <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/fia/>. Duties: A majority of the duties will be devoted to data collection operations of which about three to four months will be spent in and out of the field. Duties will involve the planning of all aspects of the field work including scheduling and field logistics, hiring field workers, administering contracts, overseeing interpretation of imagery and ownership determination, the writing of field manuals, and training field crews. The position will require working closely with State and federal officials as well as major landowners. During the field season, work involves supervising teams of field crews in remote locations, acting as a helicopter manager, overseeing the scheduling of fieldwork including arranging for vehicles, aircraft, boats or other forms of transportation, and overseeing the integrity and quality of field data including developing quality assurance programs, as well as performing field inventories. The position is supervisory in nature and involves hiring, performance appraisals, and overseeing personnel actions. During the 3-4 months of data collection, the position will be working out of remote field camps or hotels 80-100% of the time. All non-field related duties are performed in Anchorage. For more information, please contact Ray Koleser (907) 743-9416, rkoleser@fs.fed.us, or Connie Hubbard (907) 743-9420, chubbard@fs.fed.us, PNW Research Station, 3301 C Street, Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99503. When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web site: www.usajobs.opm.gov. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

The USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Protection Alaska Region will advertise in the near future a position on the State and Private Forestry (S&PF) staff titled Biological Science Technician. This is a non-supervisory position available at the GS-0404-5/6/7/8, or 9 level with a duty station of Fairbanks, Alaska. State and Private Forestry offices are headquartered in Anchorage and are part of the Alaska Regional Office located in Juneau. The GS-5/6/7/8 or 9 level is available to match the skills and ability of the candidates to this field oriented position. This position reports directly to the Entomologist (Fairbanks field office Unit Leader) of the Region's Forest Health Protection Staff. The incumbent serves as technical assistant to the staff Entomologist and Ecologist in planning and conducting complex and specialized Forest Health Management activities. These activities include aerial detection of forest insects and diseases, on-site evaluations, laboratory analyses, logistical planning and support for field studies and data processing and analysis. Condition of Employment: Applicant must have or be able to obtain state driver's license. For more information about the position, contact James Kruse (Interior Entomologist, S&PF, Forest Health Protection, Alaska Region) at jkruse@fs.fed.us. When the position is advertised, the announcement will be posted on the Office of Personnel Management web site: www.usajobs.opm.gov. The USDA is an equal opportunity employer.

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